Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for personalizing rating limits in a parental control system of a television signal receiver system, comprising:

accessing a rating sample having a first rating from a first source, said rating sample accessed from a rating sample database of said television signal receiver system;

enabling reproduction of the rating sample having a first rating from a first source, said rating sample accessed from said rating sample database of said television signal receiver system;

detecting a user input indicating the acceptability of the rating sample having a first rating from a first source, said rating sample accessed from said rating sample database of said television signal receiver system;

generating a first transition point based on the user input and the first rating; ~~and~~

using the first transition point to determine whether data associated with a rating from the first source is output or blocked;

presenting a user interface providing an option to display another rating sample;

detecting user selection of said option to display another rating sample; and

responsive to detecting user selection of said option to display another rating sample, repeating, for another rating sample, at least said steps of accessing a rating sample, enabling reproduction of the rating sample, and detecting a user input indicating the acceptability of the rating sample.

2.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the rating sample further has a second rating from a second source, and further comprised of:

generating a second transition point based on the user input and the second rating; and

using the second transition point to determine whether data associated with a rating from the second source is output or blocked.

3.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the user input indicates an MPAA rating.

4.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the user input indicates a TV Parental Guidelines rating.

5.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the user input indicates the acceptability of the rating sample for one or more individuals.

6.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the ratings sample comprises at least one of video data, audio data and text data.

7.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

rating sample database means containing rating samples;

interface means for detecting a user input indicating the acceptability of a rating sample, said rating sample accessed from said rating sample database means, said rating sample having a first rating from a first source; ~~and~~

control means for generating a first transition point based on the user input and the first rating, and for using the first transition point to determine whether data associated with a rating from the first source is output or blocked<u>;</u>

<u>means for presenting a user interface providing an option to display another rating sample; and</u>

<u>means for detecting user selection of said option to display another rating sample.</u>

8.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the rating sample further has a second rating from a second source, and the control means generates a second transition point based on the user input and the second rating and uses the second transition point to determine whether data associated with a rating from the second source is output or blocked.

9.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the user input indicates an MPAA rating.

10.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the user input indicates a TV Parental Guidelines rating.

11.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the user input indicates the acceptability of the rating sample for one or more individuals.

12.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the ratings sample comprises at least one of video data, audio data and text data.

13.   (Currently Amended) A television signal receiver, comprising:

a rating sample database containing rating samples;

an interface operative to:

detect a user input indicating the acceptability of a rating sample, said rating sample accessed from said rating sample database, and said rating sample having a first rating from a first source; ~~and~~

present a user interface providing an option to display another rating sample;

detect user selection of said option to display another rating sample; and

a processor operative to generate a first transition point based on the user input and the first rating, and to use the first transition point to determine whether data associated with a rating from the first source is output or blocked.

14.   (Previously Presented) The television signal receiver of claim 13, wherein the rating sample further has a second rating from a second source, and the processor is operative to generate a second transition point based on the user input and the second rating and to use the second transition point to determine whether data associated with a rating from the second source is output or blocked.

15.   (Previously Presented) The television signal receiver of claim 13, wherein the user input indicates an MPAA rating.

16.   (Previously Presented) The television signal receiver of claim 13, wherein the user input indicates a TV Parental Guidelines rating.

17.   (Previously Presented) The television signal receiver of claim 13, wherein the user input indicates the acceptability of the rating sample for one or more individuals.

18.   (Previously Presented) The television signal receiver of claim 13, wherein the ratings sample comprises at least one of video data, audio data and text data.